



FCS Multi-role Armament and Ammunition System

NDIA Armaments for the Army Transformation Conference

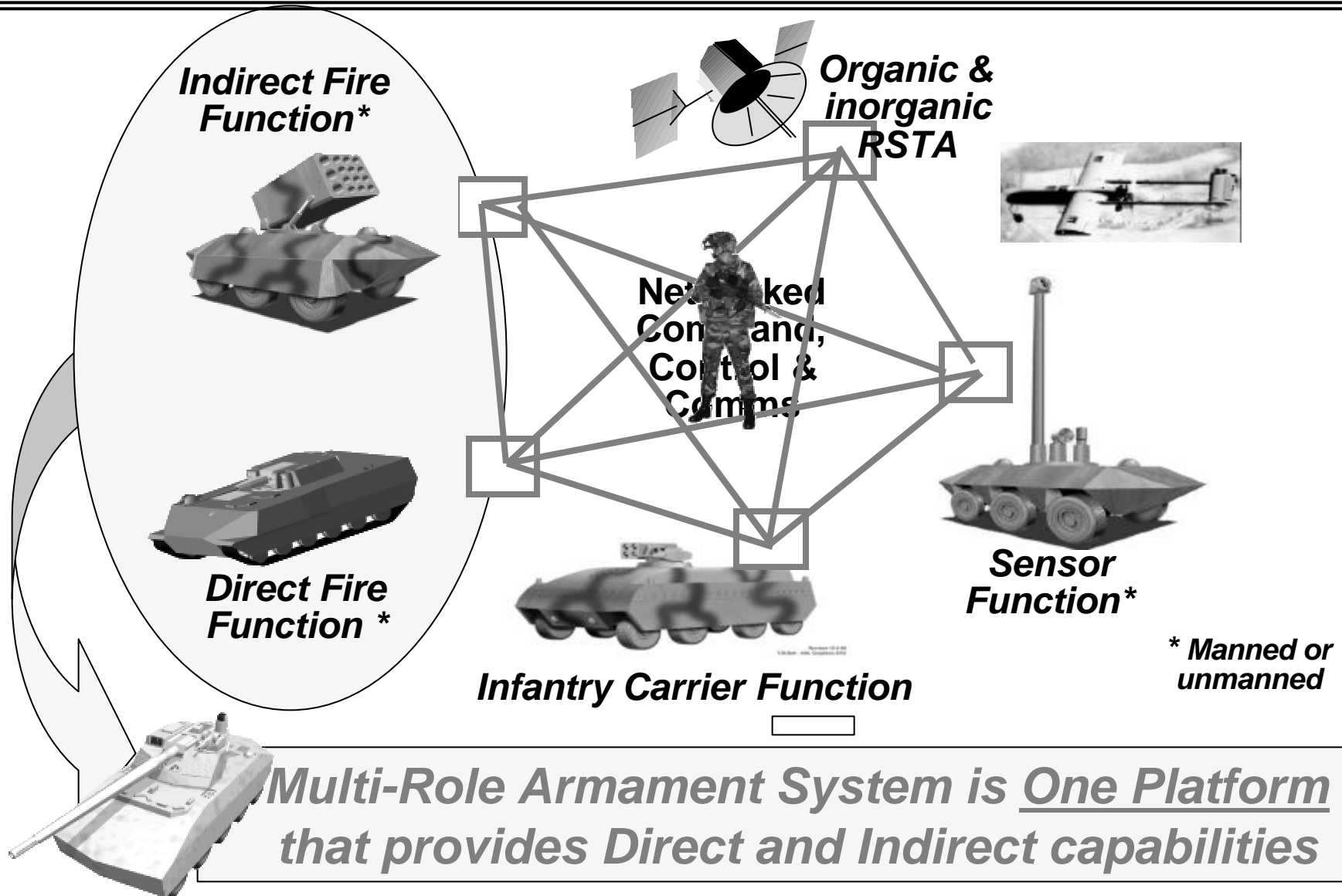
20 June 2001

Steve Krupski
US Army TACOM/ARDEC
FCS Multi-Role Armament Manager
(518)-266-4768
skrupski@pica.army.mil





Future Combat Systems Enabling the Objective Force





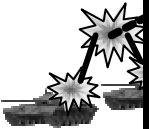
FCS Multi-Role Armament & Ammunition System ATD



Object

p
C
o

e"
o



"One Shot.
....At Least

NLOS 4-5

Pacing

Canono

- Elec
- Rec

Munitio

- See
- Mul



& NLOS
trum of

gh
gle

One Lightweight Armament System Capable of Dominating the Red Zone and Beyond



The Role of Technology for Lethality

Pacing Technologies

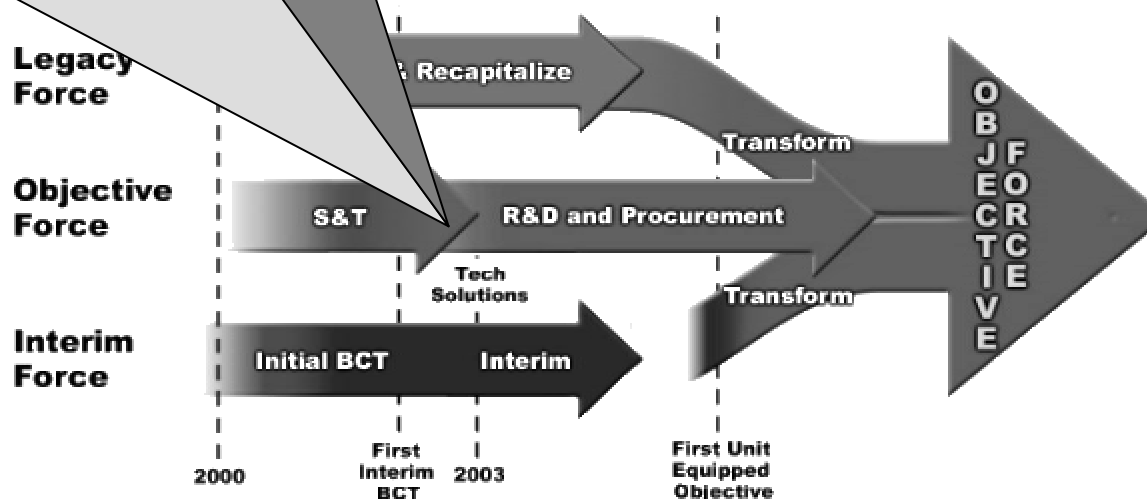
- Recoil management
- Electro-thermal-chemical (ETC) propulsion
- Precision Munitions
- Multi-purpose warheads
- Advanced KE

Armament Capabilities

- Rapid engagement of full target spectrum from 0 - 50km.
- Fire on the move, all terrain
- Roll-on / Roll-off from C130 aircraft
- Standoff precision lethality

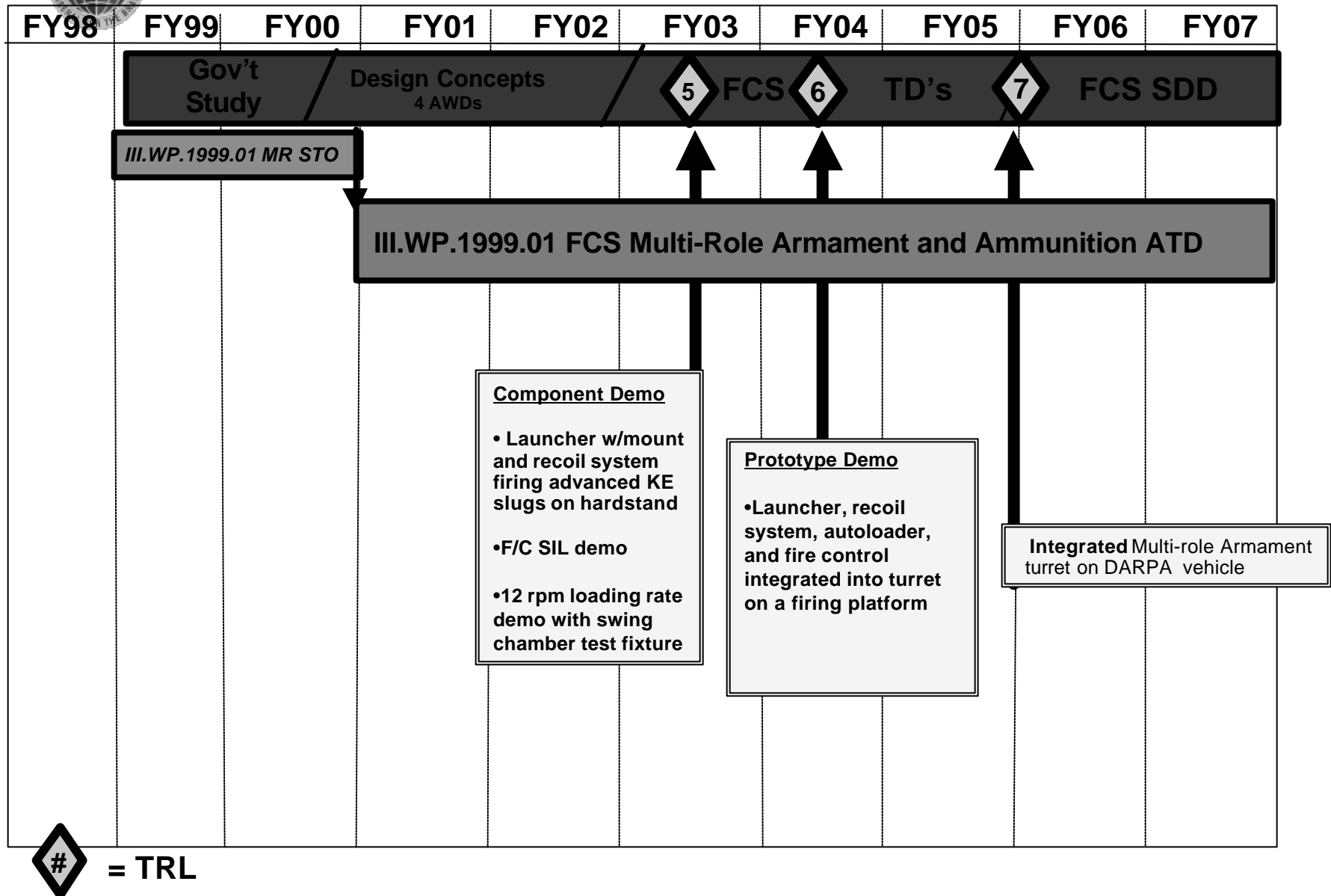
Force Capabilities

- Dominant at every point on the spectrum of military operations
- Deployable anywhere on earth within 96 hours
- Dominate Red Zone while simultaneously shaping deep battle





FCS Multi-Role Armament ATD Roadmap

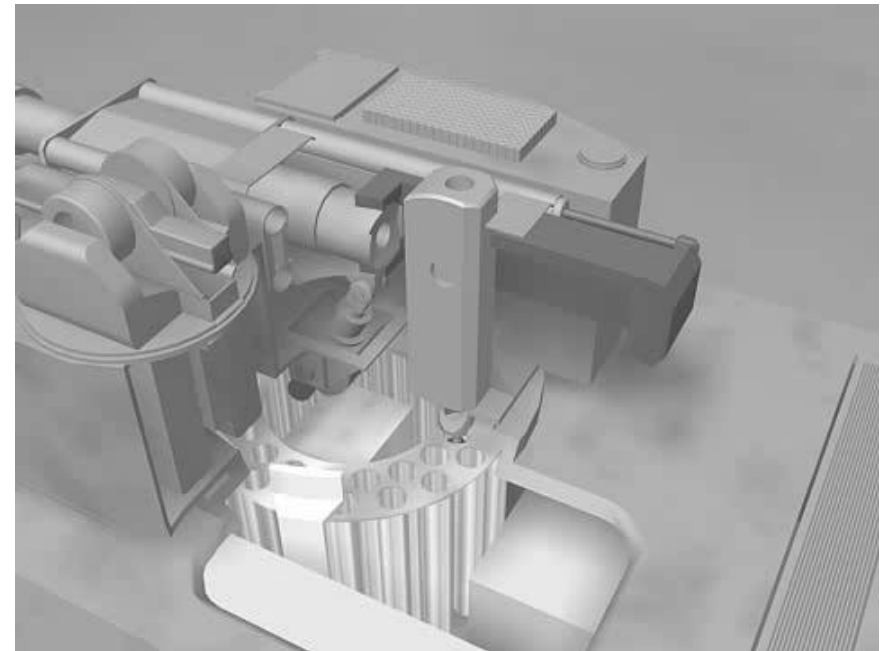




Multi-Role System Trade Study Results

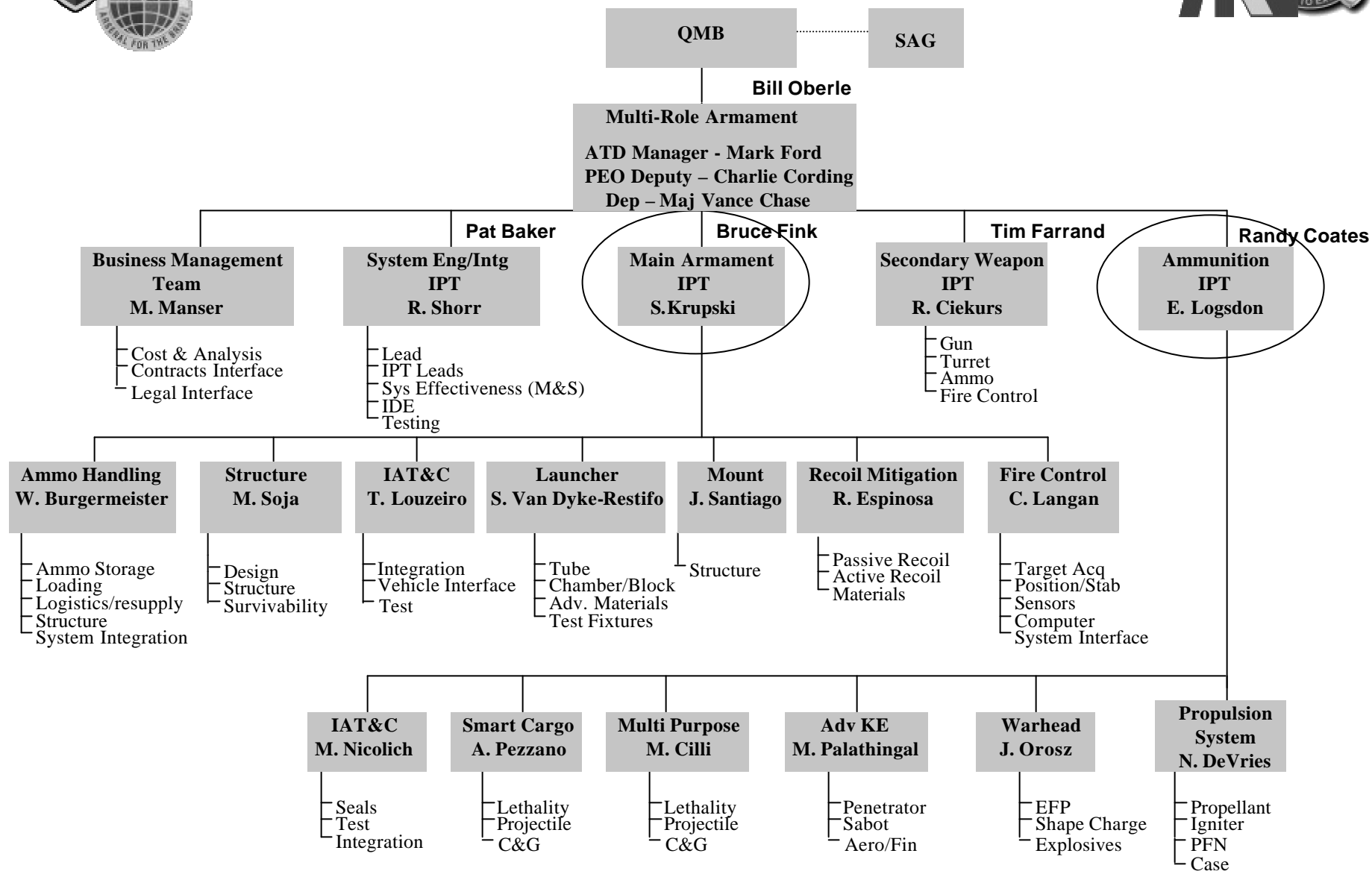


- 105 mm, case telescoped, 150 mm dia x 900 mm long chamber
 - Able to meet our performance goals
 - Smaller, more on-board storage a major driver
- Swing Chamber cannon selected
 - Reduces autoloader and turret weight, size, and cost
 - Readily supports high burst firing rates
- Fire-out-of-battery recoil
 - Offers the best opportunity to reduce recoil force and stroke
 - Allows less structure, minimized vehicle intrusion into ammo space, therefore lighter weight





Multi Role Armament/Ammunition Organization Structure



ARL Leads in red

Carey Iler is the TARDEC POC

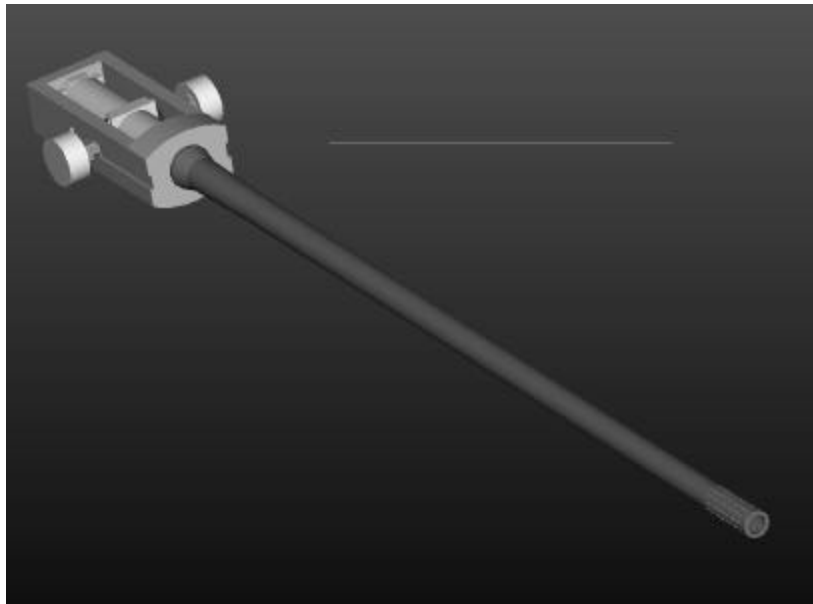
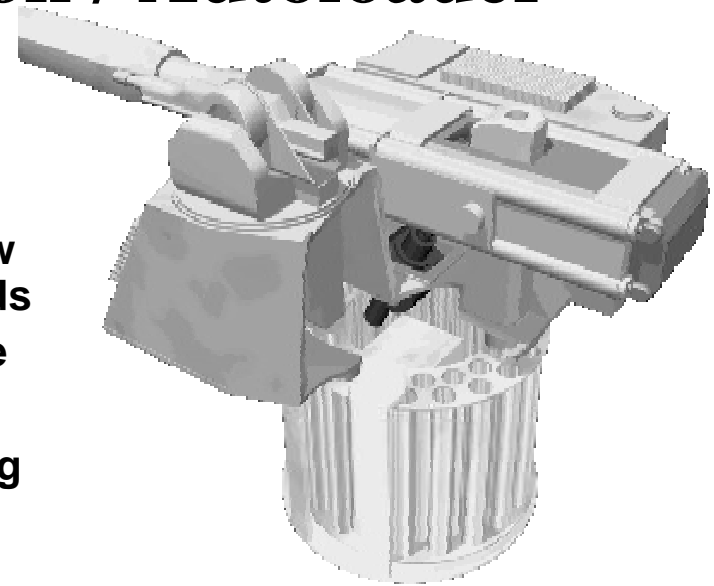


Multi-Role Armament Swing Chamber Cannon / Autoloader



- Main Armament

- Launcher with swing chamber – CTA
 - Compact ammo handling needed to allow more room for stowed ammo – 40 to 50 rds
 - Enable 15-20 rounds/min burst firing rate
 - Cannon weight to be 3500 / 3000lbs
 - Direct/Indirect fire -10 to +55 degree firing elevation





Swing Chamber Cannon Details

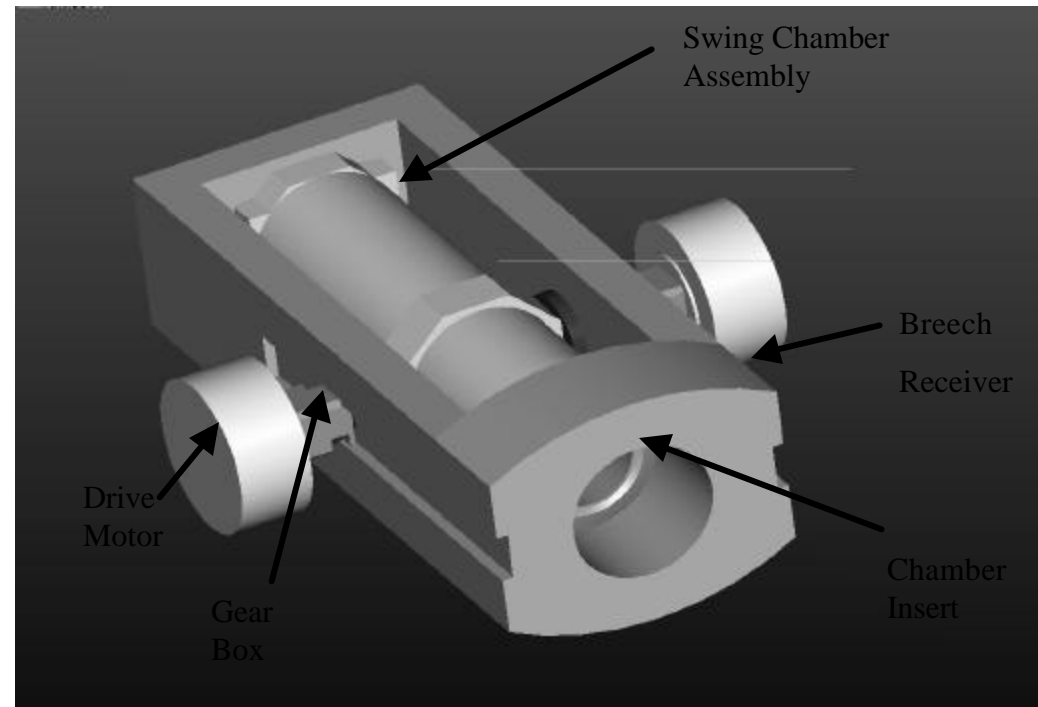


–Materials

- High strength steels, 200KSI yield strength
- A723, AF1410, Clarm HB7, are candidates
- Utilized in chamber for TRL 5 demo, tube & breech receiver for later demonstrations

–Composites

- Longitudinal overwrap to be applied to increase stiffness
 - Reduces fire control burden to track muzzle
- Hoop overwraps of muzzle end will help reduce gun weight, imbalance, and decrease stabilization requirements
- Application to breech receiver to reduce stretch and weight



–Tube bore protection

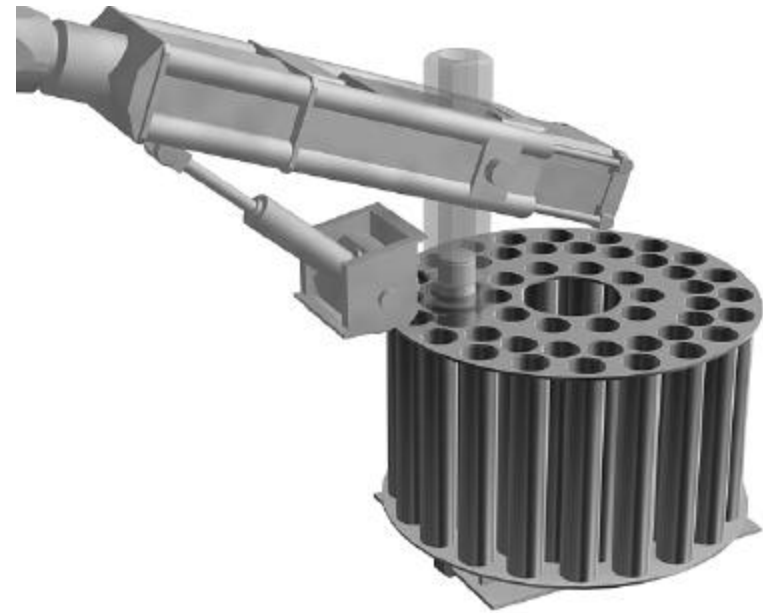
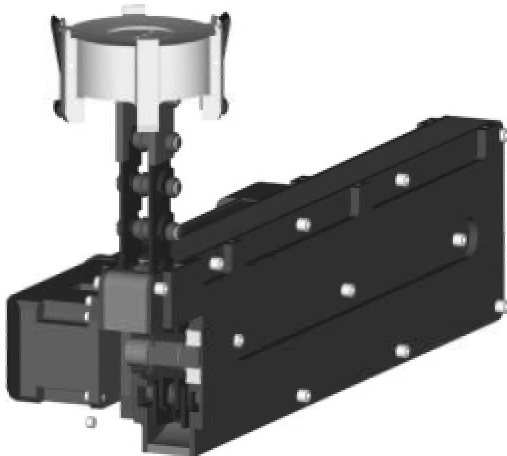
- Ammo test tubes for first firings to be chrome plated
- Tantalum sputtered bore surfaces to be evaluated for 2nd generation gun in integrated turret demo



Autoloader



- Simple direct load at any gun elevation
- 40-50 Stowed Rounds
- Weight < 900lbs.
- Burst Loading Rate: 15 to 20 rounds/min
- Load on the Move (Direct and Indirect Fire)
- Cell design requires consideration of ammunition vulnerability
- Storage system configuration being optimized for the best system fit



- Loading test fixture being developed
- Drives, motors, power requirements
- Rammer configuration
- Velocity control to push out an empty case and load new round



Recoil: Two Paths



Manage Recoil Momentum



- Fire out of Battery
- Extended Recoil Stroke
- Increased Recoil Mass
- Ergonomic Man/Machine Interface
- Active Suspension

Reduce Recoil Momentum



- Benign Muzzle Brakes
- Sonic Rarefaction Wave Gun
- Low Impulse Ammunition



Fire Out Of Battery (FOOB)



Challenge: Fire a high impulse round (30-40% higher than current 105mm) from a 18 ton class system

FOOB TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION

- **Pre-accelerates cannon forward prior to firing**
 - **Forward momentum of gun partially cancels rearward momentum imparted by round**
- **Reduces recoil reaction force and/or stroke**
- **Facilitates shorter recoil strokes and less vehicle intrusion**
 - **More space for stowed rounds**
 - **Greater gun elevation capability**
 - **Less structure volume, less armor requirement**
- **Incorporates ETC ignition**
 - **Precision timing for FOOB**
 - **Precision ignition enhances accuracy**

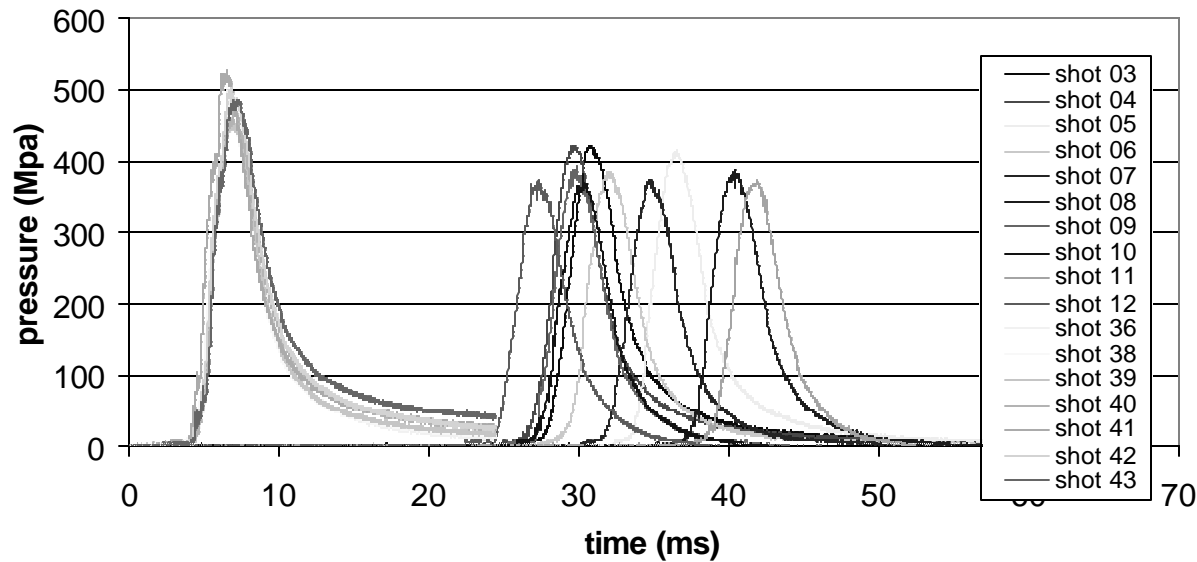


Modified 105mm M35 gun





105mm Conventional and ETC Ignition



Ignition Type	Conventional	ETC
Number of shots	10	10
Velocity (average)	1192 m/s	1209 m/s
T2 Time (average)	31.4 ms	4.66 ms
T2 Sigma	4.85 ms	0.150 ms

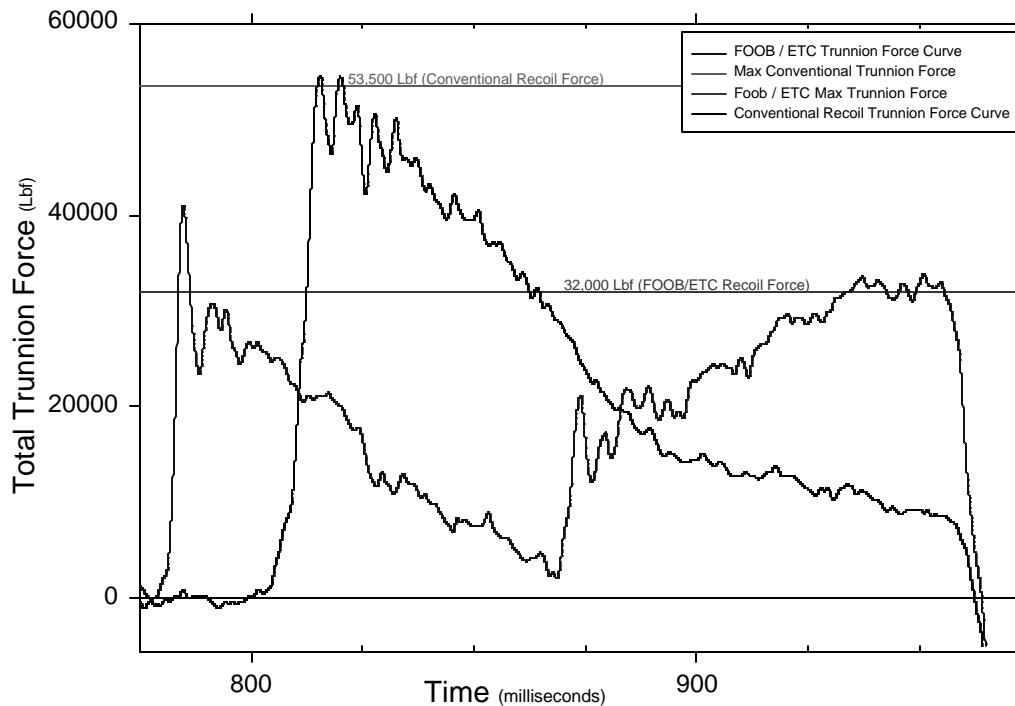


Fire-out-of-battery (FOOB) Surrogate Gun Demo

Trunnion Force Comparison



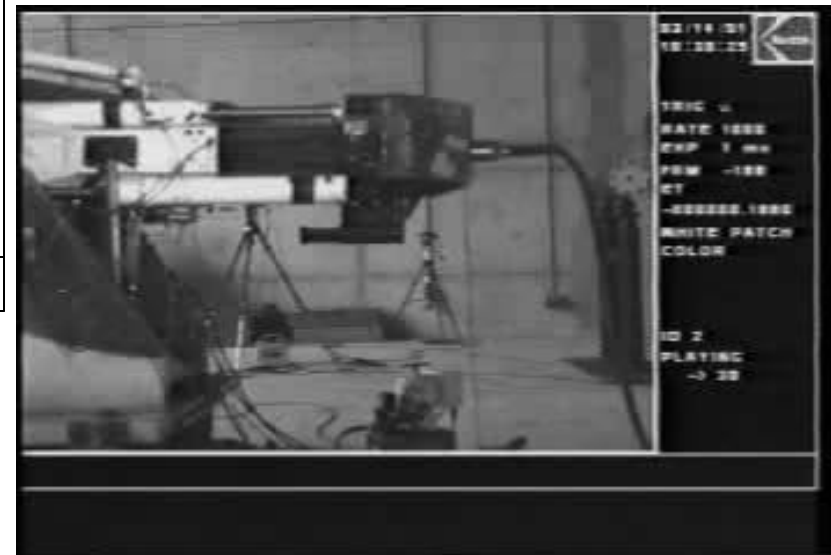
Comparison of Trunnion Forces
FOOB / ETC vs. Conventional Recoil / ETC Ignition
M490 Rounds, M35 Gun Tube with a muzzle brake
Trunnion Force Reduction = 40 %



12-16 March - Fired:
7 M490 FOOB/ETC Rounds
5 “Conventional” FOOB Rounds
5 Conventional Recoil Rounds
5 Conventional Recoil w/ETC

Utilized 105mm M35 gun w/modified recoil system & muzzle brake

Trunnion force reduction of 40% for FOOB/ETC vs. conventional recoil





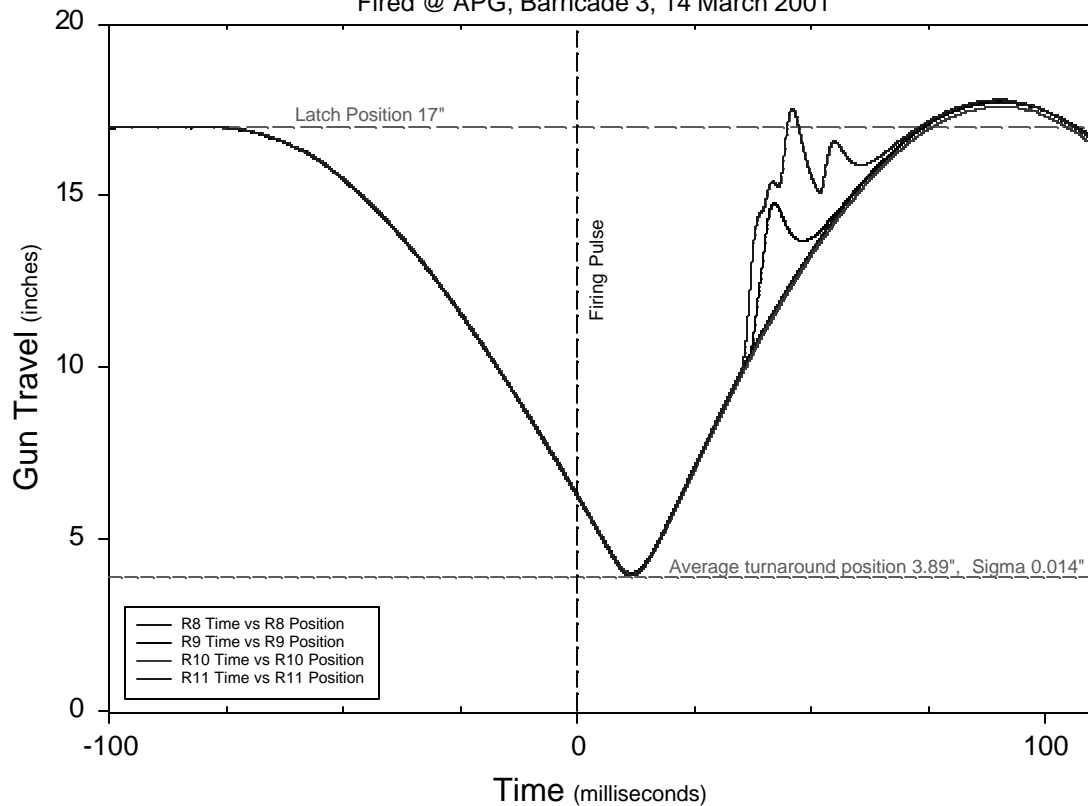
Fire-out-of-battery (FOOB) Surrogate Gun Demo ETC Precision Ignition Gun Travel



FOOB / ETC Travel Curves

Rounds 8 - 11

Fired @ APG, Barricade 3, 14 March 2001



Rounds fired 12-16 March :

- M490 FOOB/ETC Rounds
- M35 gun with FOOB recoil, ETC ignition & muzzle brake

Precise ETC ignition results in a very repeatable gun travel, i.e. very little variation in turnaround point & max recoil position.

Consistent gun travel makes FOOB a viable technology.

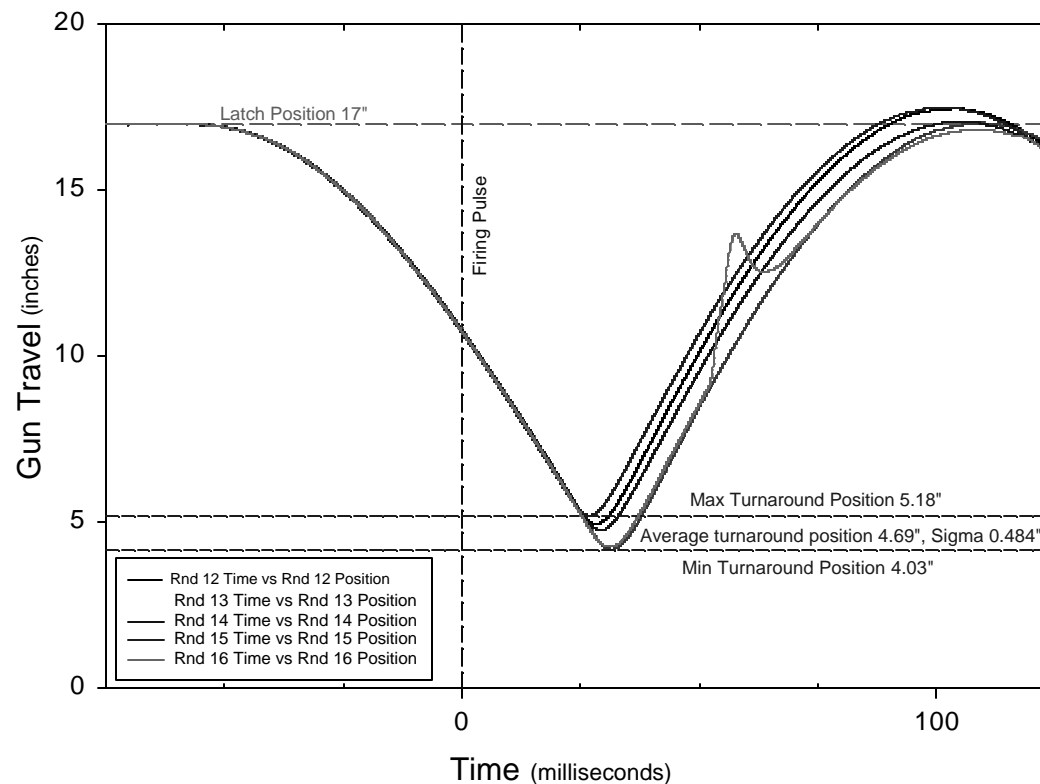


Fire-out-of-battery (FOOB) Surrogate Gun Demo

Conventional Ignition Gun Travel



FOOB Travel Curves
Conventional Ignition Rounds 12 - 16
Fired @ APG Barricade 3, 15 March 2001



Rounds fired 12-16 March :

- M490 FOOB/ETC Rounds
- M35 gun with FOOB recoil, Conventional ignition & muzzle brake

Conventional ignition results in inconsistent gun travel, i.e. wide variation in turnaround point & max recoil position.

Inconsistent gun travel precludes FOOB because of unreliable latching & gun over-travel

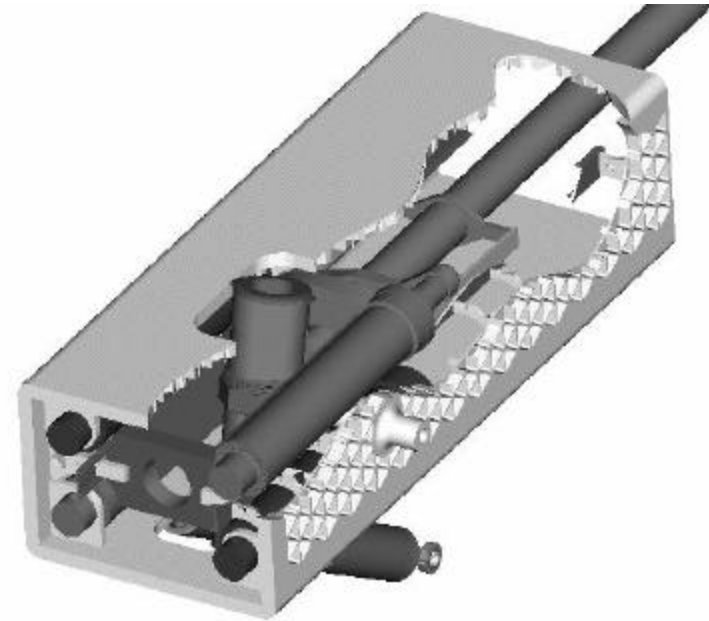


Mount & Recoil System



•Cradle structure

- Must rigidly support the gun for pointing
 - Require a lightweight structure
 - **High Strength Steels**
 - **ISO - GRID Structure**
- Configured to minimize gun imbalance
- Latching mechanism with controls for FOOB



•Recoil System

- Adaptive recoil system required for varying impulse and firing elevation
 - Magneto-Rheological, Electro-Rheological, (MR or ER) fluids
 - Linear motors
 - Servo valves
- Recoil system and cradle design must be compatible with swing chamber



Multi-Role Fire Control



- **Technical (Platform) Fire Control**
 - **Increase accuracy – Direct & Indirect fire**
 - Improved weapons pointing – gun drives and stabilization**
 - Projectile tracking**
 - Environmental sensing**
 - Cannon muzzle tracking**
 - Improved ballistics processing**
- **Tactical Fire Control**
 - **Decision aids/DIFM (Multi-Agent) software being developed**
 - **Coordinating efforts with OGA & industry**



Summary

Accomplishments

- **FOOB / ETC technologies have been demonstrated together**
- **Trade study completion allows focus on hardware design**
- **Objective system concepts have been prepared and are being refined**
- **1st firing fixture for CTA rounds designed, built, and fired**
- **Fire control source selection in process**

Plans

- **Optimize recoil stroke, FOOB velocities, muzzle brakes to suit vehicle structure and stability requirements**
- **Refine vehicle models with TARDEC & industry**
- **Resupply concepts to be developed**
- **Detailed designs of TRL 5 test hardware to be completed this winter for start of fabrication early '02**
- **Award fire control development contract**